



NEWS RELEASE

A Century of
Water for the West
1902-2002

Mid-Pacific Region
Sacramento, California

MP-03-004
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916-978-5100

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 28, 2003

DRAFT REVISED (b)(2) DECISION COMMENT PERIOD CLOSES **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2003**

On December 18, 2002, Reclamation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service released the draft revised decision on implementation of Section 3406(b)(2) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act for public review and comment. The comment period will close Monday, February 3, 2003. Copies of the draft revised decision may be obtained by:

- Downloading a PDF version from Reclamation's website at www.mp.usbr.gov or from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service website at <http://sacramento.fws.gov>, or
- Requesting printed copies by calling 916-978-5100, TDD 916-978-5608.

Comments must be received no later than Monday, February 3, 2003. Submit comments to: Ms. Lynnette Wirth, Public Affairs Office, Bureau of Reclamation, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825-1898; e-mail lwirth@mp.usbr.gov; or fax to 916-978-5114. For additional information, contact Ms. Wirth at 916-978-5100, TDD 916-978-5608.

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A contemporary water management agency, Reclamation is the largest wholesale water supplier in the United States, with operations and facilities in the 17 Western states. Today, these facilities include 348 reservoirs with the capacity to store 245 million acre-feet of water. Reclamation projects supply one out of five Western farmers with irrigation water for approximately 10 million farmland acres. Reclamation facilities also provide water to about 31 million people for municipal and industrial uses. In addition, Reclamation is the nation's second largest producer of hydroelectric power, generating more than 42 billion kilowatt hours of energy each year from 58 hydroelectric powerplants. Its facilities also provide substantial flood control, recreation, and fish and wildlife benefits.